

September 21, 2016

Dear Performer/Educator, Musician, Storyteller, Artist, Magician:

Although the summer of 2016 has just ended, the Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS) is already planning for next year's Summer Reading Program! OLIS staff is currently coordinating the statewide Summer Reading Program's Performers' Showcases.

You are receiving this message because you have either performed as a summer reading presenter in the past, you have been recommended to OLIS as a performer, you have contacted OLIS to inquire about the showcase, or you are listed on the Rhode Island State Council for the Arts Education Roster. We have tried to be comprehensive in reaching out to potential performers, but would appreciate your help if you think we've left someone out. Feel free to forward this email to other performers/educators or share this opportunity with your contacts. Many of you may be mentors to a new generation of storytellers, musicians, artists, etc., so you may want to reach out to them. OLIS appreciates your help in spreading the word.

Performer/Educator Applications are available online and must be submitted by Tuesday, November 1st at 12:30 PM.

If you offer programs for both children and teens, please submit both a Children's Summer Reading Program Performer Application and a Teen Summer Reading Program Performer Application.

Children's Summer Reading Program Performer Application:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017childrensSRP>

Teen Summer Reading Program Performer Application:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017teensrp>

General information about Rhode Island's Summer Reading Program is available online at

<http://www.olis.ri.gov/services/srp/about.php>

2017 Children's Summer Reading Program: "Build a Better World"

Each year, OLIS develops a list of approximately 8-12 performers/educators to provide programs to children ages pre-K to 10 in libraries during the summer reading program. Performers, or performing groups, present an average of 5-40 programs over the course of the summer. There is a wide range in the number of programs presented because, while the Children's Services Advisory Council (8 children's librarians) selects the final slate of presenters, each library books its own programs. OLIS serves as an organizer and convener, not a selector.

These performances are given in 70 public library buildings across the state and are booked from mid-June through mid-August. The fee paid for each 45-60 minute performance is \$160.00. The children's theme is "Build a Better World."

In order to select the performers/educators, OLIS schedules an annual performer's showcase. This year's showcase will be at the Warwick Public Library located at 600 Sandy Lane Warwick, RI 02889. **The showcase will take place on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 from 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM (snow date: 1/18).** Each performer or performing group prepares a 15 minute program which is performed in front of children's librarians from around the state. Each performer or group is encouraged to bring flyers or other promotional materials to distribute. Libraries also book shows during other times of the year so this is an opportunity to present your program to a large group of librarians.

Based on the applications received, 12 presenters will be selected to perform at the Showcase on January 11. In selecting educators to perform, first priority is given to people who have not been summer reading performers in the past. Second priority is given to presenters who have not been part of the summer reading program for at

least 4 years. After these, we will include performers who have performed in the recent past, but would like to debut new material related to this year's theme.

We will also have a limited number of tables set up where performers/presenters can display their work. Some, especially visual artists, may prefer to present a program this way.

The Children's Services Advisory Council will consider all presenters who submit applications and descriptions. All presenters will be given equal consideration.

2016 Young Adult (Teen) Summer Reading Program: "Build a Better World"

Each year, OLIS develops a list of approximately 8-12 performers/educators to provide programs to tweens and teens ages 10 & up in libraries during the summer reading program. Librarians will schedule programs at their libraries all summer long, but these are generally smaller programs than the children's summer programs. There is a wide range in the number of programs presented because, while the Young Adult Round Table elects the final slate of presenters, each library books its own programs. OLIS serves as an organizer and convener, not a selector.

These performances are given in 70 public library buildings across the state and are booked from mid-June through mid-August. The fee paid for each 45-60 minute performance is \$160.00.

In order to select the performers/educators, OLIS schedules an annual Teen Summer Reading Program Performers' Showcase. This year's teen showcase will be at the Warwick Public Library located at 600 Sandy Lane Warwick, RI 02889. **The showcase will take place on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 from 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM (snow date: 12/13).** Each performer or performing group prepares a 15 minute program which is performed in front of young adult librarians from around the state. Each performer or group is encouraged to bring flyers or other promotional materials to distribute. Libraries also book shows during other times of the year so this is an opportunity to present your program to a large group of librarians.

Based on the applications received, 8-12 presenters will be selected to perform at the showcase on December 7. In selecting educators to perform, first priority is given to people who have not been summer reading performers in the past. Second priority is given to presenters who have not been part of the summer reading program for at least 4 years. After these, we will include performers who have performed in the recent past, but would like to debut new material.

We will also have a limited number of tables set up where performers/presenters can display their work. Some, especially visual artists, may prefer to present a program this way.

The Young Adult Round Table will consider all presenters who submit applications and descriptions. All presenters will be given equal consideration.

Block Booking Meeting for Children's and Teen Programs

Once the performers/educators for the summer have been selected and agree to perform, they are invited to the block booking meeting. **This year's block booking meeting for teen programs is Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at the Warwick Public Library from 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (snow date: 2/14) and the block booking meeting for children's programs is Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at the Warwick Public Library from 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (snow date: 2/14).** Each performer lists days and or times when he/she is not available to make things run as smoothly as possible during the booking. After the meeting each performer's schedule is posted online, so there is minimal work for performers in developing their own summer calendars.

What to Consider Before Applying:

Performing in the statewide summer reading program means accepting some common terms and conditions. If you have any questions or concerns about these terms, please feel free to contact Danielle Margarida at danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov or 401-574-9309. However, the terms listed below are not negotiable.

1. Agreeing to present between 5 and 40 programs in RI public libraries between mid-June and mid-August as scheduled. The number of performances you will book at RI libraries cannot be predicted ahead of time; librarians book the presenters they would like to hire. OLIS organizes the booking meeting, but does not set up requirements for which programs (or how many) the libraries book.
2. Accepting \$160.00 per program. There is no money available to pay for travel fees, preparation or supplies; the \$160 is all-inclusive.
3. Being able to attend the Summer Reading Program booking meeting (if selected by the Children's Services Advisory Council) on February 7 (snow date: 2/14). Each summer reading performer/educator will be responsible for filling his/her own calendar on that date.
4. Completing the application by 12:00 PM ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1st. The application form will automatically close at this time and will not be accessible for late submissions. Please contact Danielle Margarida at danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov or 401-574-9309 with any questions or if you have difficulty with this application.
5. Rhode Island library staff are not eligible to apply.

Please note: OLIS pays for one children's performer and one teen performer per library. Libraries may also book more than one children's performer and one teen performer, but they are responsible for paying for performances beyond the ones funded by OLIS. Because of this, some of your programs will be paid for by OLIS and some may be paid for by the library that booked your program. OLIS determines which programs will be paid for by OLIS and which programs will be paid for by the booking library. OLIS makes every effort to ensure a balance between the programs paid for by OLIS and the programs paid for by the booking library.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. If you'd like to be removed from this list, please let me know. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Danielle Margarida
Youth Services Coordinator
Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services
danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov
401-574-9309